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Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

Volume 8
Number 8

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year \$1.50
Single Copy, 15 cents

Jersey City (3), N. J., P.O. Box 428

267

SEPTEMBER, 1953

Dick Storey Now Active President For 1953 Term

MAIL BAG

60th F. A.

Clair R. McKee of RR #2, McComb, Ohio (B-Btry) told us that he was very sorry that he could not make the last convention and as he explained, the summer time is a rather rough time for a farmer to take off because of the amount of work to be done. Clair writes if the convention was in August it would make it a lot easier for him to get out. Clair was a jeep driver of "B" Btry, and if any of the X-Arty men are around his way stop in and say "Hello" . . .

Joseph S. Flipowicz of 62 Roosevelt Avenue, Jersey City, N.J. announces that on May 2nd of this year he married the former Julia Ann Karabas of Roselle, N.J. and after a two week motor trip through Florida will set up house-keeping in Jersey City . . .

60th Inf. . .

Philip St. John Moore Jr. (formerly 1st Lt. MAC) tells us he has moved recently from Tennessee to P.O. Box 6 Foley, Florida. Phil has moved from plant engineer at the Cellulose and Specialties Plant of the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. to Production Supervisor for Buckeye Cellulose Corp.

Howard J. Heilman (F-60th and Div.Hq Co.) sent us a card announcing the fact that he has retired from Government service and is now opening his law office for the practice of general law in the National City Bank Building, 629 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. Heilman can be reached by phoning Prospect 1-7139 . . .

Garver O. Frazier (1st with P and K Companies) informs us that he has been real busy these last few years he has had a milk route, a frozen custard drive-in, did some farming and incidentally is now the proud father of a new son born on January 25th. Garver could not make the last convention but will try to make the next one . . .

Joe Lipka sends us the following photo of Mike Ross (m co.)



"Mike was married on May 17, 1953." Mike is currently living at 1741 W. 16 St., Chicago 8, Illinois.

Mrs. Carl Brech of 7203 Seymour Drive, Cincinnati 37, Ohio, tells the Octofoil that Carl is still carrying the name of "Duffy" and

has been putting on a little civilian middle. Their son, Carl, Jr. is leaving for marine duty very shortly . . . Carl and the Mrs. hope to make one convention just as soon as it is possible. Carl incidentally was with the Medics . . .

47th Infantry

Wilton Taylor (M-47th) our favorite correspondent sends along the following story . . . "In the September issue of the American Rifleman magazine under the title of 'Random Shots in the Shooting world' (Page 48) is a picture of Colonel Per Ramee (Retired) former C.O. of the 39th Infantry and with him at the rifle range at Fort Dix, N.J. was Lt. Col. John J. Healey. The retired colonel is showing them how the 39th used to squeeze 'em off in days gone by."

Wilton also found an article in the September, 1943 Combat forces journal, page 18 entitled, "And they marched every one" by Brig. Gen. Erwin H. Randle (Retired) C.O. of the 47th, in which he tells of the 47th combat teams long march from Safi to Port Lautey in December of 1942. The article tells about such towns as Modoselles, Oranges, Arolis and Port Lautey . . .

Wilton sends us some poop that may interest some of the men who are looking for information about the 9th. The following books are published by the Office of the Chief of Military History Department of the Army, Washington D. C. which tell of the battle action that the 9th participated in while overseas. "To Bizerte with the 2 Corps" cost \$.50. Saint-Lo cost \$1.25. Utah Beach to Cherbourg cost \$2.00. Cross-Channel Attack cost \$6.00; others to be published soon are: Operations in Northwest Africa, Sicily (About the surrender of Italy), Breakthrough and Pursuit, The Siegfried Line Campaign, and The Last Offensive . . . Wilton has some criticisms that may be interesting about some of the above mentioned books as "With 2nd Corps to Bizerte" and "St. Lo." The maps are very interesting and detailed and the facts are clearly printed. The exploits of the 9th Division in detail can be found in a book called "Invasion" by Charles Christian Wertenbaker.

War Correspondent for Time and Life. This book has some 9th Division pictures of the 47th and it shows Lt. Horan at a sand table studying the Invasion, and another particular in an LST crossing the channel. It goes into company and of the 47th and of M company in battalion details and tells of Colonel Johnson getting hurt and of Colonel Flint, Ernie Pyle and General Eddy. This book is printed by the Appleton-Century Co. in N.Y. and it can be found in local libraries. In Ernie Pyles, "Here is your War and Brave Men", one can find 2 chapters about the 9th

(Continued on page 3)

New York Chapter Fall Dance

The first fall dance of the season for the New York Chapter will take place on November 21, 1953 at the Hotel New Yorker, 34th Street and 8th Avenue in New York City.

The following men have been placed in charge of the activities: Irving Feinberg and Larry Greenman have been appointed chairmen for this event. Harold Pepper, Dom Mele, George Whitney and Fred Golub will round out the committee. Additional members will be added to this group at the October meeting.

The site of the affair will be in the main ball room of the Hotel New Yorker which has just been recently remodeled and is completely air-conditioned (just in case we have another heat wave). A very popular orchestra has been engaged and entertainment for this affair has been discussed.

Tickets for this event will be mailed to all members.

Each time the New York Chapter has had an affair it has set the town talking, and no wonder, because the N.Y. chapter has set a series of success precedents when it comes to affairs of this type.

A special program for this gargantuan event will be published in the first announcement of this the next issue of the Octofoil. This event to acquaint the membership at large to set aside all commitments and line up baby sitters have your suits cleaned and pressed, and make sure that you don't miss the social event of the year the Fall dance of the N.Y. Chapter on November 21, 1953 . . .

Illinois Chapter News

The Illinois Chapter at its last meeting elected the following officers for 1954: President, Bud Remer; 1st Vice President, John Novak; 2nd Vice President, Ed Coyle; Secretary, Ted Preston; and Treasurer, Roger Elmer (This makes it Roger's third term as Treasurer, a real honored distinction). The Board of Governors will consist of Mike Belmonte, David Heller and Albert Geist.

Local chit-chat: The Chy gang is boasting these days of a new meeting place at 3346 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago. Our deepest thanks goes to Ted Preston, who made this all possible. We have recently learned of a tragedy and we were shocked to hear about the death of Otto Kerner's daughter who died recently as a result of injuries incurred in an auto accident. Our deepest sympathies for your loss, Otto . . . Kerner served in North Africa with the Division Artillery and in civilian life is United States District Attorney for North Illinois.

The moving bug is with the 9th

(Continued on page 4)



President's Message

Frank Wade's duties as President of the Association dropped onto my shoulders on September 20, 1953, in accordance with the new By-Laws which provide that the President will take office sixty days after his election.

To Frank Wade go the thanks of all of us for a year of progress in which, for the first time in several, we gained members. The Association is stronger as a result of his term of office and, Frank, I am sure that the whole Association joins me in expressing to you our appreciation for the time and the effort which you put into the job.

Now for the future. What have we in the Association?

It was originally formed to perpetuate the friendships which grew out of the experience of a group of men in combat. I know that I for one, and I believe a great many others, found at the end of the war that the public thought that anybody who had been in uniform had been shot at by the enemy. Even among other groups of service men who fought the war in London, Paris or Rome and had never had it so good, were those who rather looked down on the fighting men as poor relatives. But we of the Ninth Division knew what it was all about and in our association we could find old friends with whom to talk over our experience in a common language and from the point of view of mutual experiences and emotions.

We are growing older. Our conventions are becoming family affairs in which wives and children take a more and more active part. Our Association is enriched as a result and our circle of friends gains in breadth and depth.

Those who have not participated are missing something. Not just a few days of fun at the conventions, but a continuing contact with a lot of people who are doing all kinds of things in this world — interesting things, too.

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THE OCTOFOIL

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Published each month by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News articles, feature stories, photographs or art material from members will be welcomed and every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to the "Octofoil" 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. P. O. Box 428, Jersey City 3, N. J.

Extract from the certificate of incorporation of the Ninth Infantry Division Association: This Association is formed by the officers and men of the Ninth Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an ever lasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to members and former members of the Division.

Copy and pictures must be received on or before the 5th of each month to guarantee publication.

Advertising Rates will be furnished upon request. Write to Stanley Cohen, Ninth Inf. Div. Assoc., P. O. Box 428, Jersey City N.J. Entered as Second-Class Matter under Act of March 3, 1879 at Post Office Jersey City, N. J.

Volume 8

September, 1953

Number 8

A Large Red Stamp

The life line of this Association is the United States Post Office. Each and every trip to the Post Office box brings news of the members of this Association and what is going on with them, their families and their friends.

Some trips bring us news of a change of jobs or assignments, or that they met Joe or Jim, and some trips include our literature returned to us with a large red stamp reading, "Deceased."

These are not just returned envelopes, but notations of friends who we will never see again. These are the men who we once fought with, joked with and lived with, men who shared our mutual trials and tribulations of life and death.

The following list comprises the latest compilations of "RED STAMPED ENVELOPES"

J. M. Hawley, Rt. 2, Warsaw, Illinois (60th Inf.)

Bruce D. Jackson, 701 No. 16th St., Herrin, Ill. (60th Inf.)

T-Sgt. Norman E. Cooper, 217 Elm St., Wellington, Ohio (60th Inf.)

Chas. Wickersham, 235 West Garfield, Norwood, Penn. (Penn.)

Frank C. Seman, 4854 Union Road, Buffalo, N.Y. (39 Inf.)

Benjamin Heiskala, 220 West F. S., Iron Mountain, Mich. (39th Inf.)

There is no doubt in our mind that some of these names are very familiar to some of our readers. Yes, it is true we suffered great casualties during the war, but it is still hard to face the reality of seeing the word, "Deceased" on an envelope. Time and fortune are moving and the swift reaper of death poises like a waiting sword in the distance. As the Blue and the Grey had thousands, they now have but one or two, this then is the inevitable. . .

Let us not forget our duty to one another. We survived in war because we were strong, let us keep this heritage alive now in peace. Forget not these men who are no longer with us. Help to perpetuate them. Let us now remind ourselves that we still have a duty in seeing to it that we remain a strong and fearless unit of peaceful endeavors.

Keep our Association strong and alive, you have your duty outlined in the form of yearly dues, and your responsibility to the memories of friends who will no longer answer roll call.

Forget not these men and forget not the ideals of this Association to perpetuate the memory of all who fought with the 9th. . .

U.S. Dead in World War II Honored at 15 Memorials

Shrines of Unusual Beauty Erected by America Near Sites of Big Campaigns

Fifteen chapeled shrines which are planned to rank for a millennium among the foremost works of memorial architecture on earth watch over 93,604 white marble crosses and stars which mark the graves of the nation's dead overseas in World War II.

They are being set up by the American Battle Monuments Commission as places of pilgrimage and gardens of eternal memory. The bodies of American soldiers and sailors have been gathered from their hastily made graves near the far-scattered battlefields from Port Lyautey to beyond the Rhine and placed after file in these 5 permanent cemeteries.

The magnitude of the undertaking can be understood from the fact that the shrines, in all the larger cemeteries at least, are planned to rank in ornateness and grandeur with the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials in Washington. Some of the foremost living architects and sculptors, as well as world masters of fresco and mosaic are at work on the job.

Up to now only one of these cemeteries, at Suresnes, near Paris, has been completed. Perhaps the most beautiful of all, at Cambridge, England, is nearing completion.

The others, in various stages of progress, are scattered from the ruins of ancient Carthage, where all the North African dead left overseas are buried, to Hamm, in Luxemburgo, and Neuville-en-Condroes, in the Ardennes, where repose those killed in the 1944 German breakthrough and the crossing of the Rhine.

New Idea Carried Out

The plan now being carried out is a wide departure from anything hitherto attempted. Each American cemetery will constitute a shrine both of memories of the dead and of history.

In each case arrangement of the graves, landscaping, shine and chapels will be woven into a coordinated whole, with the names of all the dead carved into chapel walls and frescos showing the action in that particular sector of the war. In each case the architecture and general layout is planned to fit into local scenery and traditions. A pilgrim's tour of these shrines will give a complete picture of the war in Europe.

Near Omaha Beach, within sight of the English Channel, for example is St. Laurent. Here are buried those who died in the Normandy landings and in the bitter fighting during the next month as troops of the 1st Army divisions moved into Cherbourg and St. Lo.

The chapel is a Norman chapel. The memorial will be a Norman memorial. The headstones are arranged over a green hillside above the sea in the form of a cross. Wall mosaics will give the positions of the various divisions throughout the Normandy fighting.

St. Laurent will be the pilgrim's the great war in Europe. All the gateway into the fading past of Normandy dead, placed in bivouac graves in corps cemeteries at Isigny and Ste. Mere Eglise where their bodies were gathered up from the battlefields, now have been brought together here. There are 9386 crosses, telling the story of the bitterest fighting in Europe.

At Mont St. Michel

Next is St. James Mancel, at the entrance to Brittany. Overlooking the site stands the golden angel on top of Mont St. Michel.

The hillside looks out on the Channel Islands. Here are buried the men of the 3rd Army killed in the Avranches breakthrough and the men of the 1st Army Divisions

who fell around Mortain in the attempted German counterbreak.

Here also rest those killed on the way to Paris. Both shrine and chapel are designed according to the characteristic Breton ecclesiastical architecture, which differs notably in its decidedly Celtic note from the Norman style followed at St. Laurent. Here 4410 are buried.

Other cemeteries, similarly projected, for the dead of the great 10-month sweep from the English Channel to the Elbe River, are at Newville, Belgium, for the dead of the Ardennes; Epinal, in the Vosges, near Metz; Henri-Chapelle, Belgium; St. Avold-Sur-Moselle, in Lorraine, and Margraten, Holland.

All the North African dead are at Carthage, where the memorial is planned in the architectural style of the Tunisia of the earliest days of Christianity.

The dead of Sicily, of the Italian landings and of the extremely bitter fighting through the Appennines between Naples and Rome are gathered at Nettuno, near the scene of the ill-fated Anzio landings. One of the most elaborate and beautiful of all the American memorial cemeteries will be at Florence for those killed in the rest of the Italian campaign and in the air fighting over the Balkans. This shrine lies six miles south of the city, on a gently sloping hillside banked with woods, with a little stream flowing through it.

Dead of the 7th Army are gathered in the cemetery at Dravignon-sur-Varith, with olive trees characteristic of southern France scenery growing among the graves and one of the most elaborate of all the chapels with a sculptured figure of Our Mother of Sorrows and of France's crusading king, St. Louis. Other 7th Army dead are buried at Epinal in the Vosges, south of Nancy.

Transfer of the bodies to those final graves is nearly complete for the European theater. Of these, 2695 still are unidentified.

Each headstone carries the name, rank and organization of the soldier. All are made from an exceptionally high grade of marble quarried from caves originally opened by the Romans high in the Italian Tyrol.

Set in Beams

These crosses and stars of David all are precisely the same distance apart, with a tolerance of only two millimeters, about a tenth of an inch. They are set in reinforced concrete beams. Approximately 130 miles of such beams have been put in place.

For the mosaic work in one of the chapels alone eight tons of bits of stone and marble, averaging about the size of a thumbnail, were used.

Extreme care is being used to see that all names are right. The name on a man's service record is not accepted.

It may have been spelled wrong, or given the wrong initial, by a careless company clerk. The soldier himself may have given the wrong spelling. In every case it has been checked with next of kin.

Dead of the Pacific war are buried in a new cemetery at Manila which is in charge of the Battle Monuments Commission. Here 17,191 bodies have been gathered. At Punchbowl Crater, Honolulu, are 13,376. This cemetery is not under commission control. There are smaller cemeteries at Hato Tejas, P. R., and Sitka, Alaska.

Approximately 84,994 bodies of World War II dead have not been identified. These include sailors lost or buried at sea, soldiers and airmen reported missing in action of whom no trace has been found, and those whose bodies have been found, but which cannot be identified. Very few, if any, of those missing in action of whom there has been no report for eight years can be presumed living.

A total of approximately 170,000 bodies has been returned to the United States at the request of relatives. It is considered highly unlikely that there will be any more such requests.

CAN YOU HELP

A compassionate plea to help kindle the spirit of Christmas in the hearts of Korea's countless orphaned, maimed and homeless was received by Maj. Gen. E. K. Wright, commanding general of the Military District of Washington. It was written from Pusan by Infantry Major John E. Johnson.

It is believed that the contents of the attached letter will be of interest to your organization inasmuch as its theme strikes a kindred note to all who have served in the Armed Forces. Your assistance in this worthy project will be greatly appreciated.

For all who wish to send clothing or food, the following mailing information is transmitted:

Maximum weight of a package is 22 pounds and each should be no larger than 72 inches in length or girth. Send no perishables. Pack well and wrap in double corrugated paper. And, in order that the package arrive by Christmastide, mail no later than October 1.

Sincerely,

NORMAN E. SPROWL
Colonel, GS
Chief of Information

"Operation Santa Claus"

We, the officers and enlisted men comprising the permanent party personnel of the Pusan Replacement Depot, Pusan, Korea, want you and your friends to know about "OPERATION SANTA CLAUS" because we believe it to be a worthy cause with a humanitarian appeal and we want to en-

list your help to make the project a success.

We are NOT asking for money. All of us here are writing to our friends in the States requesting that they merely send their used clothing to us so we can distribute them to the ragged thousands of orphans in this war-torn city of refugees. We wish we could describe how these pathetically unclothed, dirty, homeless youngsters need our help. Frankly, we want to make OPERATION SANTA CLAUS synonymous with the Cadre of the Pusan Replacement Depot. If folks want to send hard candy and cookies, fine, but we need children's clothing to prove that Christmas is not only the time for thinking of our loved ones but also the time we should think of those who are less fortunate. It is a wonderful opportunity to spread old-fashioned cheer that will do so much good with so little cost to all of us who can and will help.

Please pass the word and help us who, on our own time, are trying to bring the Spirit of Christmas and the love of the Christ-Child to these helpless kids. We say, "Don't throw it away"—mail it away." Mail the packages of used clothing early to assure timely

(Continued on page 4)

MAIL BAG

(Continued from page 1)

Editors note: Wilton Taylor is one guy that comes across with 9th news for here is a man who has real heart when it comes to the 9th. As evidence the above letter . . .

Art Stenzel of 89-49 215th St., Queens Village 8, N.Y., has now become the official correspondent and general of "B" company, 47th . . . and without further ado Art says that the "B" stands for the best . . . Here thei is what Art reports about the convention . . . "Well, if you weren't there—you missed a fine one, we mean the re-union at Washington, D.C., where a fine time was had by all. As Luke Savage said, "The hotel was excellent, the festivities were well planned and impressive, food was a necessity, liquor was reasonable and plentiful and plenty reasonable and the women were above reproach . . . and that's where we were . . . above reproach (that's a city son!)"



Among those present representing "B" Company were George and Rose Apar and their three sons. Nick and Olga Palege, Joanne Wilcox and Luke Savage, Joe Metseavage, Pat Morano, Harry Browne and Art Stenzel.

Our Fair Sex



New York City will again play host to the 9th Division Association in 1954. "B" Company has begun its planning for an even greater company re-union than was held in '51 . . . You will be kept informed through the "Octofoil" and by mail of our plans and progress . . .

Remember, you made the 1951 re-union a success — you can help make next year's even greater and we need that help for we can't do it alone. Speaking of help have you paid your dues? Man no "Beco" man forgets or is ever forgotten, so lets get to it Dad . . . lets pay those crazy dues pronto or better still immediately and that will be real "Super George"

Speaking of super george congrats to Jack and Kay DiSanto who become parents of a baby girl, Theresa Marie, July 17th; also to popular and well liked Joe Metseavage, who is now the proprietor of a bar and grill in SHELANDIA, PENNSYLVANIA . . . We all extend our best wishes to you both, Jack and Joe . . . Have you any news — any requests . . . if so, drop me a note. The Beco correspondent, Art Stenzel . . .

84th and 26th F. A.

G. W. Reese sends us a note and told us that he recently ran into Frank Waleler of Savannah River . . . and last November Frank was going over to see him but Reese unfortunately had to go to the hospital . . . If any of you art'y men who wish to pen a note to Reese here is his address, G. W. Reese, Box 361, Barnwell, S. C.

Bob Fleckenstein of Btry A, 26th F. A., has just returned from a 15 week schooling endeavor at Fort Bliss, Texas and while he was there he had the good fortune to run into John Clouser. John and Bob spent a night talking over old times. Bob also met Col. Davies, who was the executive officer of the 26th when he joined them back in Birkadem, Africa. Bob says he was sorry that he could not make the convention in Washington but he will try like heck to make the next convention in New York City . . .

Brig. Gen. W. C. Westmoreland is the Commanding officer of the 187th Airborne and in a letter received by this office complements the Octofoil in the following manner, "I enjoyed the Octofoil for February and the story about Paddy Flynn. Colonel Paddy was certainly one of the most colorful figures in the 9th Division during the making of is illustrious history . . .

39th Infantry

Hal Mullins now Captain, Hqs. Special Troops, Fort Amador, Canal Zone, a former Anti-Tank 39'er, finally found out about the 9th Div. Assoc. from Captain John Miller, formerly of the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry, and tells us what has happened to him since 1945 the last we saw of one another was a little nite club in Paris down in the Monmartre section. (Quite a way back) Hal was separated in '45, then went back to school, then decided to go back into active duty. Hal pulled a tour in Korea and is now in the Canal Zone . . .

Warren W. Bennet of 202 Washington Street, Orlando, Florida formerly with "I" and "L" companies certainly gets around these days. For example: Warren is in the finance business in Georgia and South and North Carolina. However he advises us that he has been able to make his headquarters in Florida. The Bennet family now consists of his wife Jessie and two children, Warren Jr., 7, and Beverly Anne, 4½ . . . His letter ends in caps in the following manner . . . sorry I could not attend the convention this year, BUT MAYBE I'LL MAKE IT NEXT YEAR . . .

Leland A. Ellis, of 1385 W. Exposition, Denver, Colo., and Ex Sgt. of C company, 39th, complains about the condition of the Octofoils upon arrival. If any of you fellows have a gripe about that here is the answer. We have to send our Octofoils out on a 2nd class rate, because of lower postal expenses, so it may arrive in rough shape or a little late . . . Please bear with us, if it can't be ready notify us and we will send you another. But, to mail this paper in any other fashion would make the cost prohibitive . . . Incident-

tally any of you guys of C company in the Denver area, why not get in touch with Leland and say "Hello!"

15th Engineers



Thomas J. Attianese of 1490 E. 2nd Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., wants to know, "What happened to all my friends, have they lost my address, if they have my address is listed." . . . Tom sends us a real old fashioned news item. This is reprinted from "Stars and Stripes" and from the looks of the copy it must have travelled a long way getting to Jersey City . . . (No offense) "35,000 Prisoners Captured By Ninth Div. Since I Day" the article reads as follows: Rushing out from its position on the Remagen bridgehead, the veteran 9th Div. captured its 35000th prisoner since D-Day. In previous campaigns in North Africa and Sicily, the Ninth took approximately 25,000 prisoners to bring the estimated total up to 60,000 . . .

Remember?



899th T. D.

James S. Florence of Chateauroux, France, writes: "Last week I made a vacation trip to the Belgian Ardennes. I visited Liege, Spa, Verviers, Eupen, Malmédy, Hurtgen, Forrest, Bastogne, Monschau, Germany and then passed near Ellsenborn on the route to Luxembourg City. On the way back in France, I visited Verdun of World War I fame.

All the familiar places in Belgium look nice now. Nearly everything is as though war never passed through that area. Plenty of new homes have replaced the damaged ones and you could never guess if they ever were hit.

The monument for the 107 soldiers killed near Malmédy needs a new U.S. flag. The pasture where the men were killed could be made a lot nicer looking. The monument at Bastogne will be indeed a very fine spectacle and one that should

be real impressive. The chapel under the base is very nice and it really enhances the spirit of the men who fought and died here.

Monschau, Germany, is the place I got hit in 1944 and I finally took some pictures of the locale. Muternich on the hill above Monschau is the place where it happened, and I certainly will not forget that spot. The train station is still in the same damaged condition as the last time I saw it on December 18, 1944. The Siegfried line concrete blocks are still there. Monschau has built a big and very nice sports stadium in the valley by the river.

Verdun is a very impressive place to visit. One can spend about three days there and really see scars of war, even after 35 years. The Ossuare de Douaumont is really an extraordinary monument, none like it anywhere. From this vantage point one can see into Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg from the top of the tower.

James is with the 73rd Air Depot Wing, USAF, Civil Service employee, DAF. The local is south of Paris and near the Chateau country of the Loire River . . . Editors note . . . Thanks James for the fine report of familiar country . . .

709th Ordinance . . .

Walter J. Victor of 340 Lynhurst Drive, SW, Atlanta, Georgia sends the following picture of his new home. Walt sent us at the convention a picture album of the



709th Ord., but unfortunately the album arrived on Saturday too late for the fellows to look at it . . . But thanks a lot Walter for the very fine gesture . . .

Sgt. Franklin Gunter tells us that he has a new assignment and he is with the 2nd Field Hospital, APO 108, c/o PM, N.Y. Franklin remarks that although Germany is still good duty he would like to be on orders for Z.I. but being a soldier he will just have to wait for his dreams to come true . . .

Irv Scott now living in France sends us some info that we should send his best to Matty Urbanowitz, Steve Sprindis and Mike Kauffman . . .

Vic Campisi has finally returned from Germany and let us know about some of the boys. While in his last post as Information specialist he did his best to pass around the Octofoil to x-9th men as Sergeant Oliver who promised to join the Association, Major Carlo Natalini, Vic tells us, was assigned as a Medical Administrative officer with the Port US army hospital. Vic is now back in familiar surroundings and is going to start publishing "Sound Off" for the New England gang . . .

LOCAL COMPANY B REUNION Elmira, N. Y. Plays Host to 39'ers



From away upstate in the wilds of New York the men of the fabulous B Company of the 39th met again for their annual reunion.

Our favorite B company correspondent notified us of the doings of the old gang to wit: The 2nd real gone reunion (as the bobsters go) was held in Elmira, New York, on June 5th and 6th. The gang met at Buckley's Tavern and finished with a banquet at the Melody Gardens in Elmira.

The sum and substance of the membership attending was about 25 guys and gals. As the "Hawk" New York . . .

puts it, most of them had their wives with them but that didn't refrain the group from really living it up. The enclosed pictures will bear out the fact that a good time was had by all.

Vic Singer is going to push the New York gang for next year's meeting. Tom Orband of Binghamton and Al Baccile of Elmira remain president and secretary for next year. All you x-B company 39'ers are ask to contact Tom or Al and send them your addresses. Or write to the Hawk in Fairport, New York . . .



Shown in the pictures are: i the rear row, Irv King, Fairport N. Y., Louie Kenard of Avon, N. Y., (Lt.) Earl Pratt of Portland Maine. At the piano is Al Baccile of Elmira, N.Y., at the miks is Tom Orband of Binghamton, N.Y. and J.J. Moffi. Sam Spector

of Binghamton on the drums, and Fred Clift of Rochester, N.Y. playing the marachas. Joe Cascio of Buffalo is playing the sax and Joe Gravino of Macedon, N.Y. is going the kibitzing . . . and up front why natch, the "Hawk" Al Di Risio . . .

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

To gain greater breadth and depth is largely a question of personal contact. National Headquarters can bombard the mailing list with all kinds of literature, but experience has shown that this has very little effect. Where, however, an individual has made a personal effort to actually see and talk to former members, it has been easy to get results.

Stan Cohen is doing a wonderful job as National Secretary and stands ready to give you any help which he can. Get in touch with him, tell him what you are doing, and what other members of the Division are doing.

Our aim for the year is a bigger and stronger Association. With a little effort from everybody we should roll around to the New York Convention with results of which we can all be proud.

New York Chapter News

The September 2nd meeting of the New York Chapter proved to be both entertaining and fruitful in covering all the data to be accomplished. About 35 men turned up in the extreme heat to attend this meeting. During the course of the meeting the discussions centered about the coming Fall dance and the sale of raffle books and tickets and the mailing problems. A committee consisting of Mike Gatto, Al Bruchac, Dom Meile, Al Wadalavage, and Larry Greenman was appointed to assist in the mailing of the tickets and books.

Harold Pepper brought to the meeting the Nelson Memorial plaque and showed it to the men. The assemblage was informed that the dedication ceremonies were now being outlined and that final dates and plans would be established as soon as the responsible parties in Fort Dix would announce them. The members are to be notified so that as many as can make it will attend these ceremony's. A wreath will be placed upon the plaque at the dedication and will be paid for by the N. Y. Chapter

October 2, 1953

On October 2, 1953 the New York Chapter will hold its 2nd meeting of the Fall season at the Southern Restaurant 213 4th Avenue in New York City. The final reports will be discussed for the fall dance to be held on November 21, 1953 at the Hotel New Yorker. Free beer will be served during the meeting.

Wash., D.C. Chapter

On September the 21st the D.C. Chapter held its annual monthly meeting. Discussion centered about the securing of new members for the coming year. It was also announced that the next meeting date will be on Wednesday, October 21, 1953 at the Soldier-Sailors-Marine and Airman Club on 11th and I Street, N. W. in Washington, D.C. at 8:30 P.M.

The October 21 meeting will be devoted to the election of new officers, refreshments will be served on the house . . . Come one, come all . . .

Illinois Chapter News

(Continued from page 1)

again, this time it has hit Ed Coyle (former 47th) who has moved from the noisy big city to the quiet easy living suburbs. He is now located in Lansing, Illinois. Ed is really a man of movement these days, ex: he is a sales engineer for the Link-Belt Corporation and is on the road for four days out of each week, then or weekends he spends Friday in army uniform on active duty with the Chemical Warfare Reserve corps. We would say that Ed really gets about . . . Nest-pas or something . . .

Plans are being made to hold another of those fine Christmas parties that the Illinois Chapter holds every December, further details will be given to the members of the chapter, by mail in the near future.

Ninth Division decals will be blossoming out all over Illinois or the windshields of members car the chapter is purchasing through National, the Association decals and presenting them to the paid up members of the chapter as thank you gifts for the chapter and the division association. So lets go gang, get them on these windows and maybe we can shame a few of the dead heads back to life again.

Now Hear This

All men who have paid for and have not received their auto tags, have patience.

Fouled up at moment, Expect to straighten this out soon.

Chy Chapter Donates Wreath



Pictured here is John R. Huffman, President of the Chy chapter placing a wreath on the grave of S/Sgt. Andrew Stemp of the 60th Infantry killed in action on March 16, 1943. The wreath was part of a ceremony the Chicago boys participated on Memorial Day at St. Adalberts Cemetery in Chicago.

Stork News

Joe and Betty Charvat (1-39th) tell us that Elizabeth Jane arrived at 400 E. 20th Street, N.Y.C., N.Y. on July 9, 1953 and weighed in at 5 lbs. and 14 oz. . . .

Casimir and Bernice Przybylski (Hh. Co. 3rd Bn. 39th Inf.) in great exaltation announce the birth of the first son, Randal Mark, on July 1, 1953 at 10 P.M. Randa weighed in at 5 lbs. and 8 ozs. Casimir and Bernice are living at 1042 Dewey Ave. in Evanston, Ill.

New Chapter Notes

Denver Chapter Hear This

The past three weeks the mailman brought news of men in two different locals who have the same desire to form a local chapter in their areas. Leland L. Ellis of 1385 W. Exposition Denver, Colorado wants to contact men in the Denver area regarding for formation of a local gang . . .

South Carolina Hear This

Gordon Taylor of 135 Wedgewood Drive, Greenville, South Carolina has expressed interest in starting a South Carolina Chapter. Each of the two men have received names of those men in both states.

How about you lads now giving these boys a hand, if you live in the Denver or Greenville vicinity get in touch with Ellis or Taylor.

WINCHESTER - ENGLAND

Sal D'Alvia (A-T, 39th) sends a card of greeting from Winchester, England and informs the Octofoil that he and his wife Eileen and son Jim arrived in England on July 20, aboard the Queen Elizabeth, and that they expect to stay in Winchester until the 22nd of October. Sal writes that the town hasn't changed much and that the people still have a spot in their hearts for the 9th. Sal has been visiting the refreshment counters and each barman always mentions the fact that "They (9th boys) were a fine bunch of YANKS". By the way Sal's father in law, Frank Welch use to own the Fox Inn in Winchester . . . The card Sal sent shows a picture of the Guild Hall and ole King Alfred's statue looking up Broadway toward the center of town . . .

Is This You...?

Some Members Pay their dues,

When they are due. . .

Some members pay when they are overdue. . .

Some members never do

How do you do? ?

McKenzie's Note

The Eighth Reunion of our association is now but a memory. This Reunion will stand out in the minds of many as the best Reunion. The Washington Chapter and the National Officers well deserve a round of applause for a grand time had by all. The hotel and its accommodations were magnificent. The two tours arranged by the Washington Chapter were well appreciated by those who made the trips.

A word of praise should be given those men who came great distances to attend the reunion to renew acquaintances of years ago. It is men like these who keep the Association together. What can we do with those who live nearby and fail to put in an appearance at a Reunion. Paul Fribush, 3839 Pall Mall Rd., Baltimore, Md. of Service 26FA and Paul Mooney of B'klyn., N. Y. "C" 26FA were the only ex 26ers present beside myself. I sent letters to nearby Virginia and not too far away Tennessee inviting to the Reunion many of those with present. I know time and money are big factors for all of us. Start putting your beer money and cigar money in a safe hiding place so that when July 29, 1954 rolls around we shall have a bigger and better reunion at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City.

Sincerely yours,
Joseph A. McKenzie
Service Battery
26FA

Directory of Those Who Attended '53 Convention

39th INFANTRY

Hq. 2nd Bn.

Ralph C. Carci

E. Co.

John Sabato

F. Co.

Thomas Garde

John R. Huffman

G. Co.

Thomas P. Shine

H. Co.

Rex H. Ford

Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Geiser

Albert C. Geist

3rd Bn. Hq. Co.

Jack O'Shea

K. Co.

Orlyn D. Gilea

E. J. Shanko

L. Co.

W. F. Vanderbrook

M. Co.

Richard D. Cooper

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Nalitz

Medics

Dr. R. I. Miles

William Bayd

Dr. J. L. Brooks

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Miller

Units Unknown

Carol F. Slobodzin

William H. Solliday

60th INFANTRY

Anti-Tank Co.

Mr. & Mrs. L. Kyto

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Youroski

Service Co.

Bialous

Calaini

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Golub

Mr. & Mrs. Max Monsona

Co. A.

John Agosta

Mr. Richard E. Cohen & Mrs.

Travis W. Muirhead

Co. D.

Gerald Oakden & Mrs.

Gordon Taylor

Co. E.

Ricahrd W. Martin

2nd Bn. Hqs.

Milton Cordray

Co. F.

Victor Butswinkus

John Kurtz

Co. G.

Mr. & Mrs. Perry Burnett

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Trapasso

Co. H.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Campbell

Watler Fredrickson

(To be continued next month)

CAN YOU HELP

(Continued from page 2)

arrival as it takes for regular mail from the States. Postal officials will gladly explain the shipping limitations for overseas. Address those packages to: OPERATION SANTA CLAUS, Pusan Replacement Depot, 806th Army Unit, APO 973, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

We will distribute the clothing to qualified orphans. All will share alike. None will be overlooked. No needy children will be forgotten. The project is truly American-being non-sectarian. Will you help us?

Our thanks for our efforts will be the satisfaction of a job well

done and the message of appreciation in their eyes when they receive your gifts. The gladness of a good-deed will be shared mutually in our hearts among those who cooperated in bringing happiness and good-will across the miles to the unfortunate and blameless children of war.

All we can do is ask your help. The rest is up to our relatives and friends in the States. Let's clear out that attic. We are trying to do our part. Can we depend on you to help?

JOHN E. JOHNSON
Major, Infantry
Publicity Chairman

Local Chapters of the Association

New York Chapter

Sec. H. Pepper
P.O. Box 1168
N.Y., N.Y.

Meeting place:

Southern Restaurant
17th St., & 4th Ave.
N.Y.C.

Meeting Time:

1st Frid. of each Month

Phila. Chapter

Sec. Jack O'Shea
1049 So. 52nd St.
Phila, Pa.
SA: 7-5299

Meeting: 1st Frid. every Month

P.R.R. Amer. Leg. Post 204
3202-04 Chestnut St.
Phila, Pa.

Buffalo Chapter

Sec. Henry J. R. Golabiecki
265 Cambridge Ave.
Buffalo, N.Y.

Northern Ohio Chapter

Sec: William C. Mauser
6632 Bliss Ave.
Cleveland 3, Ohio
Endicott 1-1007

EUCOM Chapter

Sec. M. Sgt. Willie F. Unsell
c/o Sec. Gen. Staff Hq.
7th Army, APO 46, N.Y., N.Y.

Detroit Chapter

Sec: Robert J. De Sandy
1685 Faircourt
Gross Pointe Woods 30, Mich.

Twin Cities Chapter

Sec: Richard W. Sims
3932 Brunswick
St. Louis Park, Minn.
Phone Wh 3311
Meeting — New Years Eve

New England Chapter

Fred B. D'Amore
75 Webster Street
East Boston 28, Mass.

Columbus Chapter

Sec: Glenn O. Moore
22 East Gay St.
Columbus, Ohio

Illinois Chapter

Secretary, Theodore Preston
3356 N. Springfield Avenue
Chicago 18, Illinois
Phone: Juniper 8-3576

Meeting place: 3346 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Second Friday of the month.

Wash. D.C. Chapter

Sec: Anthony B. Micke
7 Underwood Place, N.W.
Washington 12, D.C.
2nd Mon. of each Month at
Hotel Statler, Wash., D.C.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Stan Cohen, National Sec.-Treas.
Post Office Box 428
Jersey City 3, New Nersey

Enclosed please find 1953 dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address

City Zone State

I was a (Battery

member of (Company Regiment 9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member\$3.50 per year ()

Sustaining Member ()

THREE YEAR MEMBER\$10.00 ()

Life Membership\$50.00 ()

Octofoil Auto License Disc\$ 1.00 ()

Eight Stars to Victory\$ 3.50 ()

(Pictorial History of 9th Div. in Action)

Ladies Auxilliary Member\$1.50 ()

Decals\$.25 apiece — 5 for \$1.00

Please credit the following chapter:

Philadelphia () Illinois () EUCOM ()
Buffalo () Columbus () Greater N. Y. ()
Columbus () Pittsburgh () Wash. D.C. ()
New England () Northern Ohio () Detroit ()
Twin Cities ()

Explanation of Dues:

Non-Chapter member all payment of dues to Nat'l.
Chapter Member: \$1.00 for chapter, \$2.00 to Nat'l.
Ladies Auxilliary \$.50 to chapter, \$1.00 to Nat'l.
Three Year: \$3.00 to chapter, \$7.00 to Nat'l.
Lime Member: \$12.50 to chapter, \$37.50 to Nat'l.
Sustaining Member: Chapter to receive 1/3 of amount over \$3.50, balance to National.